

## U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Alligator River/Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge  
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[Back to News Home Page](#)

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## News Release

June 4, 2008

### **Pocosin Lakes National Wildlife Refuge Announces Temporary Closure Due to Fire Danger**

Pocosin Lakes National Wildlife Refuge Manager Howard Phillips announced today that the refuge is temporary closed to all public entry. A wildfire that started earlier this week on private lands near Pocosin Lakes Refuge has grown to an estimated 8,000-10,000 acres. The fire was contained early yesterday afternoon but escaped and burned onto the refuge in late afternoon. Because of the current fire danger and the potential for rapid spread due to predicted weather conditions, the refuge will be closed to all public entry until further notice.

On the ground, public notice will be provided by gate closure and signs. Visitors are advised to watch the newspapers or visit the website (<http://www.fws.gov/pocosinlakes>) for up-to-date information on refuge access. For more information, please contact the refuge office at 252-796-3004.